

REMARKS

Claims 26, 29, 30, and 48-58 are pending. A Final Office Action mailed August 7, 2006 rejected Claims 29, 30, and 51-53 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and rejected Claims 26, 29, 30, and 48-58 under 35 USC 102. By way of this Response, Applicant hereby amends Claims 26, 29, 30, 54, and 58, cancels Claims 49, 52, and 56, and adds new Claims 59-61.

112 REJECTIONS

Applicant has amended Claims 29 and 30 to claim “the middle section includes two sections connected by a pivotable joint,” thus clarifying that the overlapping parts are part of the middle section.

102(b) Rejections

Claims 26, 29, 30, and 48-58 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Zarnick. Applicant has cancelled Claims 49, 52, and 56, rendering the rejections to those claims moot. With respect to the amended claims, Applicant respectfully traverses. Amended Claims 26, 30, and 54 now include the limitations “the middle section extending from the first end at an angle such that when the hook configuration engages a wheel, the middle section contacts at least a portion of the wheel.” Amended Claim 58 now includes the limitation “the middle section extending from the hoist wrap section at an angle between 5° and 85°.” Zarnick, in contrast, teaches a middle section extending from the hoist wrap section at a 90° angle, and Zarnick’s middle section does not contact at least a portion of the wheel when the hook configuration engages the wheel. Thus, Zarnick does not anticipate amended Claims 26, 30, 54, and 58. As Claims 29, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55, and 57 depend from amended Claims 26, 30, 54, and 58, these Claims are also not anticipated by Zarnick for at least the same reason.

Claims 26, 29, 30, and 48-58 were rejected as being anticipated by Abel. With respect to the amended Claims, Applicant respectfully traverses. As with Zarnick, Abel does not teach a middle section extending from the hoist wrap section at an angle, nor does Abel teach that the

middle section contacts at least a portion of the wheel when the hook configuration engages the wheel. Thus, Abel does not anticipate Claims 26, 29, 30, and 48-58.

New claims

Dependent Claims 59-61 have been added. Support for the claims may be found in paragraphs 5 and 6 in the Detailed Description. No new matter has been added.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present claims are enabled, novel and non-obvious over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant requests allowance and early passage of the claims through issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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